



Embothrium speciosifimum.

Indica, Peltand, Oct. 1790. by J. Smoot & C. N. de Mead, Planc.

EMBOTHRIMUM speciosissimum.

Great Embothrium, or Waratàh.



TETRANDRIA MONOGYNIA.

GEN. CHAR. *Cor.* tetrapetala. *Stamina* limbo inferta.
Folliculus polyspermus. *Semina* alata.

Cor. of 4 petals. *Stamina* inserted into the limb.
Follicle containing many winged seeds.

SPEC. CHAR. *E. foliis* obovatis obtusis inæqualiter
ferratis, spicâ subcapitatâ, involucro polyphyllo.

Leaves obovate, obtuse, unequally ferrated. Spike
somewhat capitate. Involucrum of many leaves.

THE most magnificent plant which the prolific soil
of New Holland affords is, by common consent both
of Europeans and Natives, the Waratàh. It is more-
over a favourite with the latter, upon account of a rich
honeyed juice which they sip from its flowers. Our
figure was taken from a coloured drawing made from

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the wild plant, compared with very fine dried specimens sent by Mr. White. Only one garden in Europe, we believe, can boast the possession of this rarity, that of the Dowager Lady de Clifford, at Nyn Hall, near Barnet, who received living plants from Sidney Cove, which have not yet flowered. The seeds brought to this country have never vegetated.

The shrub is 8 or 10 feet in height, with several wand-like simple round branches, covered with a smooth brown bark, and clothed with numerous large alternate leaves, without stipulæ. These *leaves* are from 4 to 6 or 8 inches long, obovate, not broad, blunt, but tipped with a small point, smooth and veiny, paler and even glaucous beneath, more or less serrated in their upper part with sharp unequal teeth, entire, and very much attenuated at the base, running down into a short rusty-coloured footstalk. A very dense simple spike or head of *flowers*, appearing in October, terminates each branch, surrounded at the base with an *involucrum* of many large lanceolate acute leaves, of a most splendid crimson, downy on their upper side. The flowers are very thickly set round a conical receptacle, each on its own footstalk of half an inch in length. The *petals* cohere together at their base, except at the back of the flower, where the style separates them early. The *antheræ* are reniform, slightly pedicellated, sheltered by a concavity in the tip of each petal. *Germen* pedicellated. *Style* incurved. *Stigma* large, obtuse. *Fruit* a coriaceous follicle, or pouch of one piece, cylindrical, smooth, recurved,

recurved, splitting longitudinally along its upper edge, and containing many flattened *seeds*, each furnished with a membranous lanceolate wing.

EXPLANATION OF TAB. VII.

1. A flower fully expanded.
2. 2. Antheræ.
3. Germen.
4. Stigma.
5. Follicle.
6. 6. Seeds.

All of their natural size.